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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7443
INFO RUEHRC/DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WASHDC

UNCLAS BOGOTA 000685

SIPDIS SENSITIVE

OES/ENRC FOR DWOOD; EEB/TPP/MTAA/ABT FOR MSZYMANSKI; USDA/FAS FOR SFROGGETT

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: EAGR ECON ETRD TBIO KPAO CO

SUBJECT: COLOMBIA: ADDITION TO DEMARCHE ON LIABILITY AND

REDRESS UNDER THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

REF: A. STATE 11910 *B. BOGOTA 470

(SBU) On February 27, EconOff met with Faryde Carlier, the Advisor for Multilateral Environmental Issues at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), to acquire information about the GOC's position on the issues/definitions listed in Ref A. (NOTE: Carlier, the GOC lead on the Cartagena Protocol, was previously unable to meet due to her participation in the Colombia-EU free trade agreement negotiations. END NOTE.) Carlier said that the GOC has yet to develop positions on the issues mentioned in Ref A. She added the GOC's Cartagena Protocol committee -- which includes the MFA, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Agriculture, Planning Department, Invima (equivalent to FDA) and ICA (Fishing Regulator) -- would convene again after the GOC delegation returned from Mexico, attempting to formulate its policy prior to the Malaysia meeting. She acknowledged that it is extremely difficult for the committee to develop consensus, but that she would press for agreement during the committee's next internal meeting. BROWNFIELD